



CITY OF WOBURN, MASSACHUSETTS

Board of Health

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One Presumptive Positive COVID-19

Update on the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)
March 12, 2020

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health today notified the Woburn Board of Health of one adult resident that tested positive for COVID-19. The DPH results are considered presumptive positive and the sample will now be sent to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for confirmation. The resident is currently isolating at home and will continue to be monitored at the state and local levels.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) is a new respiratory illness that is spread through respiratory secretions, (*droplets from coughs and sneezes*) of an infected person to another.

While Massachusetts is currently considered low-risk for COVID-19, we understand that more cases are likely to emerge in the US in the coming days and weeks. Woburn Board of Health staff have regular communication with the MA Department of Public Health (MDPH) and the US Centers for Disease Control (CDC) who are keeping us up to date on national and local conditions. As information and guidance becomes available from the CDC, the Woburn Board of Health will continue to work closely with the Mayor's Office, Woburn Public Schools, and public safety officials to closely monitor the situation and implement any recommended actions from state and federal authorities, as needed.

At the Woburn Board of Health, our current role centers on the provision of prevention messaging, and to conduct risk assessments and public health management of persons returning from [travel](#) to high risk countries and others at risk for COVID-19 development.

It is important to focus on the many things you can do to protect yourself and your loved ones from respiratory illnesses, including COVID-19.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Wash hands often with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when feeling sick.
- Cover your cough and sneeze with a tissue, throw your tissue in the trash, and clean your hands after.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects like door handles, counters, electronics, etc.
- Make sure you are up to date on important immunizations like flu and pneumonia.
- Sign up for [Rave911](#), the Cities emergency notification system.
- Learn how to prepare and take action at home by [clicking here](#)

For up to date information on COVID-19 you may visit www.cdc.gov. Questions? Please contact the Woburn Board of Health at (781) 897-5920